a small tuft of setae anterior to antero-lateral angles of procoxae. Scutellum one and one-half times as long as broad. Metasternum with a minute longitudinal carina. Elytra densely, coarsely punctate, each elytron with indications of 10-11 feeble costae that are more evident apically. Costae indicated by short, sparse, golden setae. Metasternum between mesocoxae with small, short, longitudinal carina behind which is a small, transverse, glabrous area. Abdominal segments unmodified except fifth which has lateral margins deflexed and median apical margin reflexed. Ventral surface of body pubescent except inflexed portions of pronotum and epipleura. Coxae and trochanters pubescent. Legs glabrous except for pubescence on small basal area of femora. Ventral side of femora coarsely, densely punctate, appearing rugose. Femoral punctures with short, stiff, golden setae. Tibiae apparently without spurs; each with 6 rows of coarse, stiff setae giving tibiae a hexagonal appearance. Basal tarsal segment short, subequal to second and fourth; third slightly longer. Fifth segment stouter and longer than preceding four segments combined. Length 6.5 mm., greatest body width 4.5 mm.

Type: Holotype male, U. S. National Museum type No. 65149, from: Texas, Corpus Christi (6 mi. s.), August 25, 1935, Charles E. Burt.

## Literature cited

Kugelann, J. C., 1798. *In:* Illiger's Verz. Kaf. Preussens, xlii + 510 pp.

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# BIOLOGY AND LIFE HISTORY OF THE LIGUSTRUM WEEVIL (CURCULIONIDAE)

*By* David L. Wray[1]

The Ligustrum Weevil (*Ochyromera ligustri* Warner) was first found in Wake County, North Carolina on June 8, 1959. Attention was directed to a large ligustrum tree (*Ligustrum japonicum* Thumb.) about twenty-five feet high and with a spread of about twenty-five feet diameter. Most of the leaves were perforated by feeding of the adult beetles. Leaves of lilac nearby were also being eaten. Adult beetles were observed feeding on the leaf tissues and were easily collected if the foliage was not unduly disturbed. However, many beetles would fall to the ground just as soon as a twig was touched or the leaves only slightly jarred. This feigning death and dropping habit has been noted in some other Curculionidae.

## Life History Notes

Data on life history have been collected during the past three years (1959-61) in the Wake County, North Carolina locality. Although data on life history are not as yet complete the following notes seem worth recording. The dates included in the following notes would probably be applicable only for the latitude of Wake County.

[1] Entomologist, Div. of Entomology, Dept. of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C.

Adult beetles emerge from the ligustrum seeds around May 15. By this date the leaves are fully grown and blooming has begun. The adults begin to feed on the tissues of the leaves and also on the pollen in the blooms. Many adults can be collected by shaking the bloom head over a small white piece of paper or canvas. The females lay their eggs in the seed capsules or fruit just as soon as they are well formed which is around July 1 depending on the weather conditions and temperature. A small, slightly curved incision may be noted in the skin of the fruit. The eggs hatch within a few weeks and the young larvae feed on the fleshy fruit and seed capsule during the fall and winter. Apparently there is only one larva to each seed as only one has been found so far. The fruit drupes remain hanging on the shrubs until late fall or early winter when the infested seeds may be found on the ground beneath the shrubs. The larvae become full grown by late April and pupae are found in early May. Most adult beetles are found in late June and early July. Data so far suggest only one brood per year.

## Biological Notes

In feeding the adults cut holes either completely through the leaf tissues, or sometimes only partially through in which case only a netting of tissues remains. The feeding holes vary in size and shape but the most predominant is a round or oblong hole about 3 to 4 mm. in length and about 2 mm. in width.

Feeding signs have been found on *Ligustrum japonicum* Hort., *L. amurense* Carr., *L. lucidum* Ait., lilac, and grape.

On June 17, 1960 a brief survey was made around Raleigh and nearby points in Wake County. Adult beetles were found at four places. Two of these were in nurseries, and two in a public park and a garden. Since then beetles have been found farther west in Davidson County, N. C.

The best time to find beetles is during the blooming period in late May. Shaking the foliage over a white paper or canvas is a very effective means of collecting. In this way a survey for the presence of beetles can be made with a considerable saving of time.

Much of the rearing data was obtained by placing the infested seeds in bell jars in the laboratory. A tiny hymenopterous parasite emerged from one rearing jar. Mites were also found in some jars.

It is hoped that this study will continue to obtain information to fill in some of the gaps in the biology of this weevil.

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## NOTICE TO COLEOPTERISTS

The coleopterists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Smithsonian Institution at the U. S. National Museum are planning to revise the Leng Catalog and its supplements.

In order to stay abreast of new taxa described while the catalog is in preparation, we would like to solicit separates, notifications of papers published or some indication of new taxa as they appear. We hope this will overcome lags or possible omissions in abstracting journals and allow us to prepare a catalog that will be as current as possible.—Paul J. Spangler *for the Coleoptera Unit, U. S. Department of Agriculture.*